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Message Text

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70
ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-12

EUR-25 ADP-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03

PRS-01 SS-15 NEA-10 GAC-01 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01

AF-10 ARA-11 EA-11 COME-00 ACDA-19 AID-20 EB-11 OIC-04

SCI-06 HEW-08 AGR-20 OMB-01 /245 R

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EUR: DGOOTT
EUR/ NE: CFLOYD
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 077403

NESCO

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, XG, XE, XL, XM, US, UK, UNESCO
SUBJECT: U. S. MEMBERSHIP IN EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP OF UNESCO

REF: LONDON 4664

1. DEPT PUZZLED AS TO WHY FCO SHOULD BE UNCLEAR RE US OBJECTIVE OF SEEKING EXECUTIVE BOARD ENDORSEMENT OF OUR CONFIDENTIAL

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WISH TO ASSOCIATE WITH EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP OR AS TO OUR REASONS FOR THIS. MEMBERSHIP IN EUROPEAN GROUP WOULD CONFER AUTOMATIC RIGHT TO ATTEND ALL MEETINGS AS FULL PARTICIPANT WITH FULL VOTING RIGHTS. OBSERVER STATUS, BY

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CONTRAST, IS OPEN TO ALL UNESCO MEMBERS EQUALLY AND IMPLIES NO RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL STATUS OF US RESULTING FROM FACT THAT IT HAS MUCH IN COMMON WITH MAJORITY OF MEMBERS OF EUROPEAN GROUP, INCLUDING MUTUAL DESIRE FOR CLOSE ASSOCIATION; CULTURAL, HISTORICAL, ETHNIC AND SOCIAL TRADITIONS; DEGREE OF ECONOMIC, TECHNOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENT; AND MEMBERSHIP IN SUCH EUROPEAN OR EUROPEAN- CENTERED GROUPS AS ECE, NATO AND OECD.

2. OBSERVER STATUS WOULD PLACE US AT PSYCHOLOGICAL AND PRACTICAL DISADVANTAGE, IMPAIRING BOTH US INFLUENCE AND QUALITY AND EXTENT OF US INVOLVEMENT IN MATTERS DELIBERATED BY GROUP AND OF SPECIAL CONCERN TO US AS WELL AS EUROPEANS. AT 1972 EUROPEAN CULTURAL POLICY CONFERENCE IN HELSINKI, FOR EXAMPLE, US OBSERVERS FOUND THEMSELVES EXCLUDED FROM SOME IMPORTANT MEETINGS (A NOT UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE AT UNESCO REGIONAL CONFERENCES) AND FORCED TO RELY ON SYMPATHETIC MEMBERS OF FRIENDLY DELEGATIONS FOR BRIEFINGS ON WHAT TRANSPIRED. THIS TYPE OF HIGHLY UNSATISFACTORY SITUATION IS LIKELY TO OCCUR MORE FREQUENTLY AS EUROPEAN REGIONAL ACTIVITIES CONTINUE TO GROW.

3. RECOGNITION OF ADVANTAGES OF REGIONAL GROUP MEMBERSHIP WAS IMPLICIT IN 1964 GENERAL CONFERENCE' S DECISION TO ESTABLISH THEM. BECAUSE GEOGRAPHIC FACTOR DOMINATED SELECTION PROCESS, US (ALONG WITH CANADA, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND ISRAEL) WAS NOT PLACED IN ANY OF FIVE GROUPS CREATED, BUT IT WOULD MAKE LITTLE SENSE FOR US AND CANADA TO CREATE A TWO- MEMBER " REGIONAL" GROUP MERELY BECAUSE OF GEOGRAPHIC PROPINQUITY, IGNORING MORE IMPORTANT CRITERIA MENTIONED PARA 1 ABOVE.

4. WE ALSO HAVE GREAT DIFFICULTY UNDERSTANDING UK/ FRENCH CONCERN RE POSSIBILITY OF CREATING PRECEDENT. VIEW HAS OFTEN BEEN EXPRESSED IN UNESCO, NOT ONLY BY OTHER MEMBER STATES BUT ALSO BY DIRECTOR- GENERAL, THAT ALL MEMBERS OUGHT EVENTUALLY TO BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE
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FULLY IN AT LEAST ONE UNESCO REGIONAL GROUP. OUR DECISION TO SEEK TO JOIN EUROPEAN GROUP IS RESPONSIVE TO THIS OBJECTIVE AND IS ALSO BASED ON JUDGMENT THAT MAJORITY OF EUROPEAN MEMBERS WOULD WELCOME FULL US MEMBERSHIP IN REGION, JUST AS MAJORITY OF OTHER UNESCO MEMBERS WOULD ALSO PROBABLY FAVOR US MEMBERSHIP IN EUROPEAN GROUP. AS TO OTHER FOUR UNASSOCIATED STATES, NEW ZEALAND AND, TO LESSER EXTENT, AUSTRALIA HAVE INDICATED INTEREST IN ASIAN GROUP, NOT EUROPEAN. CANADA HAS IN PAST EXPRESSED INTEREST IN EUROPEAN GROUP, WHICH WE AGREE WOULD BE HIGHLY APPROPRIATE.

5. ISRAELI STATUS POSES ONLY REAL POTENTIAL PROBLEM, AND

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IF THIS QUESTION IS RAISED BY FCO, EMBASSY SHOULD EMPHASIZE OUR VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE VERY SHORT- SIGHTED OF EUROPEANS TO REJECT US MEMBERSHIP IN EUROPEAN GROUP, PARTICULARLY IF THEY AGREE THAT OUR FULL PARTICIPATION WOULD ENHANCE EUROPEAN GROUP' S WORK, MERELY BECAUSE OF POSSIBILITY THAT ISRAEL, WHICH THUS FAR HAS PUBLICLY EXPRESSED INTEREST ONLY IN ASIAN GROUP, MIGHT BE PROMPTED BY OUR JOINING EUROPEAN GROUP TO SEEK SIMILAR ASSOCIATION.

6. FRENCH (SEE NATO 1941) HAVE TAKEN PRECEDENT ARGUMENT EVEN FURTHER, SUGGESTING THAT US MEMBERSHIP IN EUROPEAN GROUP WOULD PAVE WAY FOR SOVIET AND PRC BIDS FOR MEMBER-SHIP IN AFRICAN AND LATIN AMERICAN GROUPS. WE WOULD HOPE UK AGREES WITH US THAT THIS IS HIGHLY SPECIOUS ARGUMENT. IN FIRST PLACE, BOTH USSR AND PRC ARE ALREADY MEMBERS OF " APPROPRIATE" REGIONAL GROUPS AND HAVE EXPRESSED NO INTEREST IN JOINING LATIN AMERICAN OR AFRICAN GROUPS. SECOND, AND MOST IMPORTANT, WHEREAS US INTEREST IN EUROPEAN GROUP IS JUSTIFIED ON BASIS OF MOST IMPORTANT CRITERIA FOR REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP, IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE WHAT CRITERIA COULD BE ADDUCED IN SUPPORT OF SOVIET OR PRC BID FOR MEMBERSHIP IN EITHER AFRICAN OR LATIN AMERICAN GROUPS. IN ANY CASE, DECISION IS, IN FINAL ANALYSIS, PRIMARILY UP TO MEMBERS OF REGIONAL GROUPS IN-VOLVED. FOR THIS REASON, ALONE, IT CANNOT BE ARGUED THAT ADMITTING US TO EUROPEAN GROUP WOULD LEAD TO SOVIET OR PRC INCLUSION IN SUCH CULTURALLY (AND GEOGRAPHICALLY) CONFIDENTIAL

REMOTE REGIONS AS LATIN AMERICA AND AFRICA. (SHOULD QUESTION BE RAISED RE ITS POSSIBLE EFFECT ON REACTIVATING SOVIET INTEREST IN JOINING ASIAN GROUP, WITH WHICH USSR HAS OBVIOUS GEOGRAPHICAL TIES, YOU SHOULD STATE THAT US POSITION IS TO LEAVE DECISION RE SOV MEMBERSHIP IN ASIAN GROUP TO ASIANS.)

7. IN ORDER FURTHER CLARIFY SPECIFIC US OBJECTIVES AND OBTAIN CLEAR- CUT UK SUPPORT, EMBASSY REQUESTED PROVIDE FCO AT WHATEVER LEVEL EMBASSY BELIEVES WOULD BE MOST EFFECTIVE, ON PRIVILEGED BASIS, WITH FOLLOWING DRAFT US RESOLUTION WE ARE CONSIDERING SUBMITTING TO EXECUTIVE BOARD. (WHETHER THIS IS DONE AND, IF SO, WHEN AND WITH WHAT CHANGES WILL DEPEND ON RESULTS OF US REP' S INFORMAL SOUNDINGS IN PARIS.)

QUOTE: THE EXECUTIVE BOARD,
1. RECALLING RESOLUTION 5.91 ADOPTED AT THE 13 TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, WHICH IDENTIFIED COUNTRIES WITH RESPECT TO PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL ACTIVITIES,

2. RECALLING ALSO RESOLUTION 4.1 ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AT ITS 72 ND SESSION, WHICH RECOMMENDS THAT, IN

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REGARD TO REGIONAL MEETINGS IN CATEGORY II, THE GENERAL CONFERENCE SHOULD REVIEW 13 C/ RESOLUTION 5.91 ON THE DEFINITION OF REGIONS WITH A VIEW TO THE EXECUTION OF REGIONAL ACTIVITIES,

3. HAVING EXAMINED DOCUMENT 92 EX/12 RELATING TO CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN REGIONAL GROUPS FOR PURPOSES OF EXECUTION OF THE PROGRAM,
4. BEARING IN MIND THE DESIRABILITY OF ALL MEMBER STATES PARTICIPATING AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE IN ALL APPROPRIATE UNESCO ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING THE WORK OF REGIONAL GROUPS CREATED TO FACILITATE PROGRAM EXECUTION,

5. DECIDES TO PLACE ON THE AGENDA OF THE 18 TH SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE THE QUESTION OF MEMBERSHIP IN REGIONAL GROUPS FOR PURPOSES OF PROGRAM EXECUTION,

6. AGREES THAT THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA ARE AMONG THE MOST CONFIDENTIAL

IMPORTANT FOR DETERMINING MEMBERSHIP IN REGIONAL GROUPS FOR PURPOSES OF PROGRAM EXECUTION OR FOR EXTENDING INVITATIONS TO MEMBER STATES TO BE FULL PARTICIPANTS IN REGIONAL CONFERENCES:

A. CULTURAL, HISTORICAL, ETHNIC AND SOCIAL TRADITIONS;
B. MUTUALITY OF INTERESTS (INCLUDING ECONOMIC, TECHNOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC) AND SHARED DESIRE FOR ASSOCIATION;
C. MEMBERSHIP IN REGIONAL GROUPS OF OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS;
D. GEOGRAPHY;
E. ABILITY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF THE REGIONAL GROUP AND THEREBY TO FACILITATE THE TASKS OF THE ORGANIZATION.

7. DECIDES, THEREFORE, TO REQUEST THE GENERAL CONFERENCE TO GIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION TO THE EXPRESSED DESIRE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN GROUP,

8. FURTHER DECIDES, AS AN INTERIM MEASURE, TO INVITE THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO BE A FULL PARTICIPANT IN MEETINGS OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL CHARACTER THAT ARE SCHEDULED TO BE HELD FOR THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP DURING 1973-1974 BIENNIUM. END QUOTE. ROGERS

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